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**RICHARD & BETTY GIBBONS
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March 23, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Clerk's Office
P. O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Sir:

Reference is being made to your announcement concerning SCE&G's application for an increase in rates and charges to be open for public hearing on April 26th. The time and place is inconvenient and we are taking this opportunity to voice our concern.

Your records will confirm that SCE&G has received a number of rate/charges increase approvals over the course of the past two years, further draining the incomes of the citizens of the State of South Carolina. Does the Commission wish to create such a fat cow in SCE&G at the expense of families, so many of which are now unable to meet their utility expenses? Does the Commission wish to further jeopardize families of the aged, infirm and low income, and risk serious health issues resulting from some families not being able to adequately heat or cool their homes? This is what you are condoning should the Commission approve yet **ANOTHER** rate increase to this company. Since SCE&G is a virtual monopoly, South Carolina is at its mercy. Alternative fuels are expensive and require alternative equipment, which is not affordable to the majority. Only the Commission can deny this rate/charges increase, and its decision will have a significant financial impact on the citizens of South Carolina.

We feel that the Commission should unequivocally **DENY** SCE&G a rate/charges increase, not only for the period to be discussed at this hearing, but for an extended period of time to allow the citizens of South Carolina a breather from being price gouged for a necessary utility in these extremely tight economic times.

Thank you for your time and **PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS RATE/CHARGES INCREASE FOR SCE&G.**

Sincerely,

Richard & Betty Gibbons

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PSC SC
MAIL / DMS